

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

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SUBJECT Congressional Visitors

REFERENCE ICATO CIRC X 115

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For: Deputy Director for Congressional Relations, ICA/W

Following is a brief report on recent Congressional visits with which USOM/Mexico was concerned:

## 1. Senator Allen Ellender

The Acting USOM Director spent approximately 30 minutes with Senator Ellender explaining to him the USOM program. The Senator seemed satisfied with the explanations given him for the various projects. The only concern he exhibited was over the pipeline of obligations vs. expenditures. The Acting USOM Director explained that a great deal of this resulted from the participant portion of the program and was largely a matter of bookkeeping. The Senator commented to the effect that the USOM program was small, was solely technical assistance, and that was the way it should be.

## 2. Members of the House Committee on Public Works

On October 27, 1958 the Acting USOM Director participated in a general Embassy briefing of the Members of the House Committee on Public Works who were in Mexico City for the Third International Highway Congress. (Representatives Robert E. Jones, Frank E. Smith, T. A. Thompson, James Wright, Hubert B. Scudder, Margaret R. Beiter, and Joseph R. Brennan.)

The briefing seemed generally well received except for one question by Congressman Robert E. Jones of Alabama. Congressman Jones expressed his concern that the Industrial Productivity Program was dominated by the "equivalent to the National Association of Manufacturers". The Ambassador and the Acting USOM Director explained that the Board of Directors of the Productivity Center was composed of representatives of the "equivalent" to the NAM.

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